

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani
Janet Bramley

DATE: July 26, 2002

RE: Adult Mental Health Service Utilization

This week's PIP was prepared in response to the PIP Advisory Group's Recommendations (www.state.vt.us/dmh/Data/PIPs/pipsrecommendedbyadvisorygrp.htm) regarding related measures of access to care and practice patterns for adult residents of Vermont in each of the state's ten mental health service areas. The measure of access to care is the percent of adults who received mental health services. The measure of practice patterns is the average number of units of service received by each person served. Both of these measures are provided for four adult age groups in the state as a whole and within each service area for FY2001.

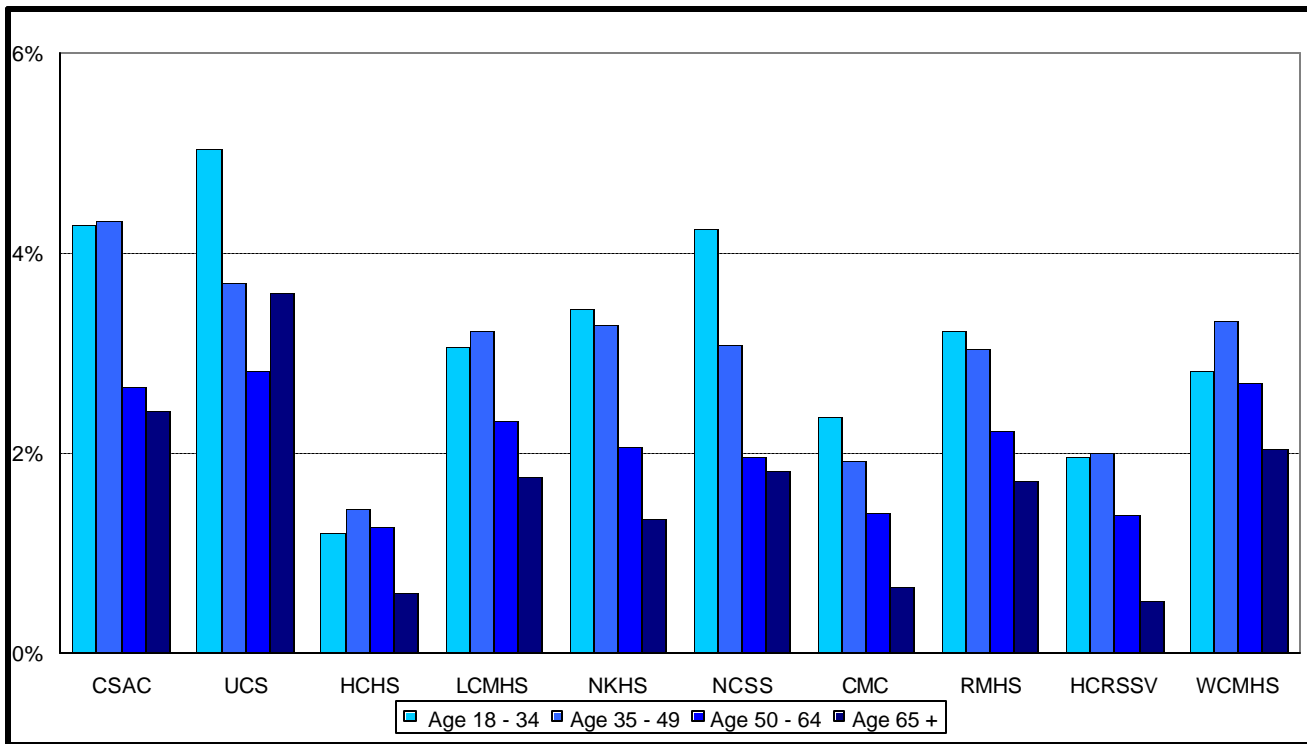
As you will see, adult per-capita utilization rates decreased with increasing age. Utilization rates were greatest for the under 50 age groups (2.6%), decreased in the 50-64 age group to 1.9%, and decreased again in the 65+ age group to 1.4%. A similar pattern was evident in all regions of the state except Bennington County. In Bennington County, per-capita utilization increased in the over 65 age group to 3.6%, more than double the statewide rate. (See Figure/Table 1.)

In contrast, the number of services per client increased with increasing age. Service utilization was lowest in the under-50 age groups (35 units of service per person), increased in the 50-64 age group to 54 units per client, and increased again to 63 units per person in the over 65 age group. Again, this pattern was evident in all regions of the state except Bennington County. In Bennington County, the number of services per client decreased from 55 in the 50-64 age group to 47 in the over 65 age group. (See Figure/Table 2.)

There were also large differences in per-capita utilization rates and numbers of services per clients in different regions of the state. Utilization rates for 18-34 year olds, for instance, ranged from 1.2% in Chittenden County to 5.0% in Bennington County. Services per 18 to 34 year old clients varied from less than 20 in Addison County to more than 45 in Chittenden County, Washington County, and Southeastern Vermont. Differences in other age groups are large as well.

We will be interested in your explanation of differences among regions and age groups with regard to these performance measures, your perspectives on which regions are performing "better" with regard to these indicators, and your suggestions for further analysis. As always you can reach us by e-mail at pip@ddmhs.state.vt.us or by calling 802-241-2638.

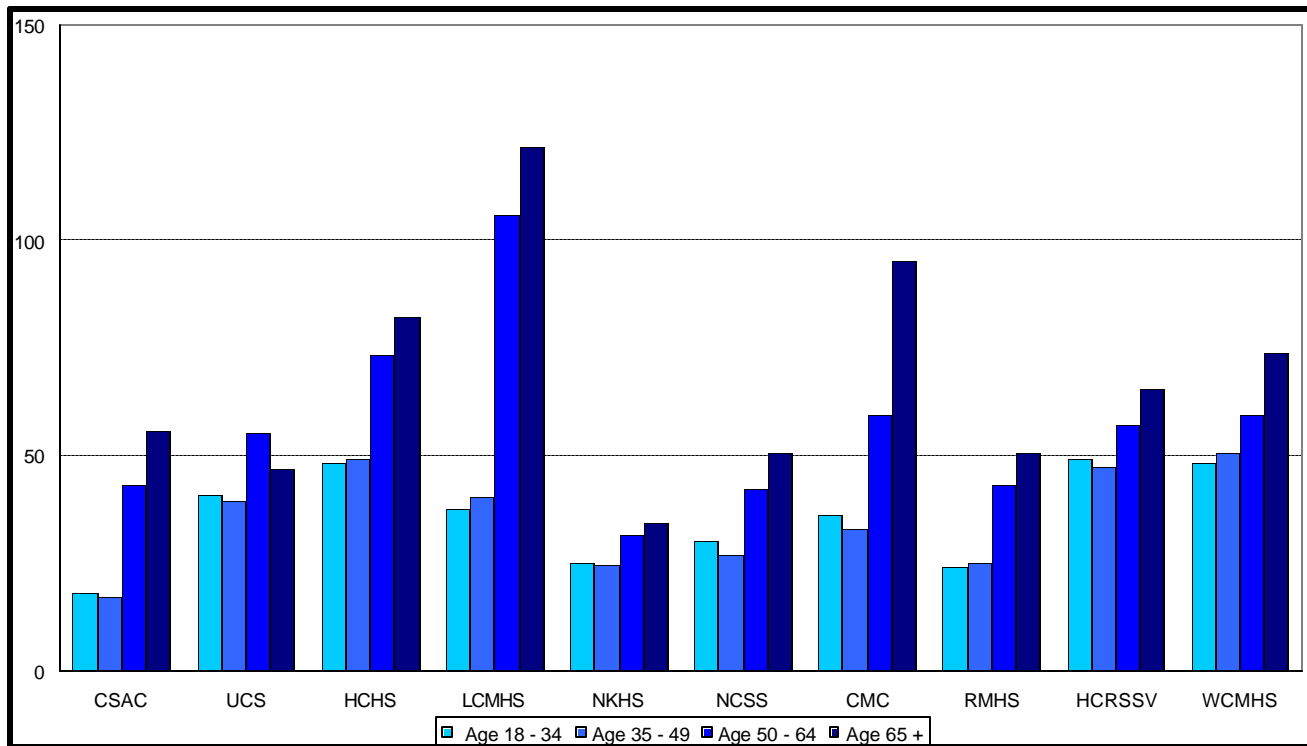
**Figure/Table 1. Adult Mental Health Utilization (CRT and Adult Outpatient)
Vermont Residents by Provider and Age: FY2001**



Region/Provider	Percent Residents Receiving Adult Mental Health Care				Total
	Age 18 - 34	Age 35 - 49	Age 50 - 64	Age 65 +	
Addison - CSAC	4.3%	4.3%	2.7%	2.4%	3.7%
Bennington - UCS	5.0%	3.7%	2.8%	3.6%	3.8%
Chittenden - HCHS	1.2%	1.4%	1.3%	0.6%	1.2%
Lamoille - LCMHS	3.0%	3.2%	2.3%	1.7%	2.8%
Northeast - NKHS	3.4%	3.3%	2.1%	1.3%	2.7%
Northwest - NCSS	4.2%	3.1%	2.0%	1.8%	3.1%
Orange - CMC	2.4%	1.9%	1.4%	0.6%	1.7%
Rutland - RMHS	3.2%	3.0%	2.2%	1.7%	2.7%
Southeast - HCRSSV	1.9%	2.0%	1.4%	0.5%	1.5%
Washington - WCMHS	2.8%	3.3%	2.7%	2.0%	2.8%
Statewide by Age	2.6%	2.6%	1.9%	1.4%	2.3%

Population figures based on 2000 Vermont Population and Housing Estimates produced for the Vermont Department of Health by the University of Vermont Center for Rural Studies. Adult mental health caseload includes all people assigned to a CRT or Adult Outpatient program who received at least one community mental health service during FY 2001.

**Figure/Table 2. Adult Mental Health Utilization (CRT and Adult Outpatient)
Number of Services per Client by Provider and Age: FY2001**



Region/Provider	Number of Services per Client Receiving Adult Mental Health Care				
	Age 18 - 34	Age 35 - 49	Age 50 - 64	Age 65 +	Total
Addison - CSAC	18	17	43	55	38
Bennington - UCS	41	39	55	47	40
Chittenden - HCHS	48	49	73	82	64
Lamoille - LCMHS	38	40	106	121	83
Northeast - NKHS	25	24	31	34	29
Northwest - NCSS	30	27	42	51	39
Orange - CMC	36	33	59	95	58
Rutland - RMHS	24	25	43	50	36
Southeast - HCRSSV	49	47	57	65	54
Washington - WCMHS	48	51	59	74	61
Mean Number of Services	35	35	54	63	48

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